

# The Daily Herald.

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NO. 16.

## NOAH'S ARK LOCATED. The Fine Old Passenger Ship In Good State Of Preservation.

From the Cincinnati Times-Star.

The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Norri, an eminent oriental traveler and explorer, now stopping temporarily in San Francisco claims to have actually discovered Noah's ark resting on the topmost summit of Mount Ararat, and has been giving the papers of that city graphic accounts of the manner in which he made his memorable find.

The doctor says that the summit of the historic and sacred mountain is 18,000 feet, or about three and three-fifths miles high. It is of course deeply snow covered. The ark rests on the very apex, where it caught on the first protruding land more than 4,000 years ago.

The great explorer does not claim to have actually reached Noah's big ship. He admits that he was able to get up the mountain side through and over the snow only 17,000 feet, or to within 1,000 feet of the historic craft. But he clearly saw it. He walked around the high conelike peak and took observations on the ancient vessel through a strong glass from every possible point of view. He reports it about 900 feet long and 100 feet high. Its rear has been crushed in somewhat by the accumulation of years. But otherwise it is in a very good state of preservation, preserved almost entirely on ice. This is all very interesting. Indeed it is charming and fascinating. But it is not absolutely satisfactory. How can Dr. Norri be certain that the structure he saw is the vessel on which Noah made his phenomenal voyage? How can he positively assert that it is a sea-going craft at all? How can he be sure that it is not the ice preserved residence of some prehistoric race that, like the Laplanders and Esquimaux, revel in a low temperature? How does he know that it was not the cold place in which defeated pre-historic politicians were left?

It is unfortunate that the reverend and enthusiastic explorer was not able to actually reach the structure which he saw and go about its resting place and perambulate through its interior. He would have been able to have determined positively whether it was a vessel, an ice house, or a structure for the cold storage of meat and vegetables. He likely would also have been able to ascertain whether it was Noah's ark, an ancient Assyrian monarch's war vessel or pre-historic millionaire's pleasure yacht. He might have been able to have identified it as Noah's craft by discovering that ancient mariner's log-book or finding the inventory of his extensive and varied menagerie.

There are also various other things which the exploring doctor might have found to show the identity of the structure with Noah's

vessel—Mrs. Noah's cook book, the old gentleman's pipe, novels with marked passages and marginal notes by the Misses Noah, memorandum books kept by Ham or Shem, the last issues of the daily papers before the big rain overwhelmed the offices, giving accounts of the gathering clouds and the first precipitations of the storm, and various other equally significant things. Until some such identifying proofs as these are presented the world will remain skeptical as to whether the Great Eastern of Noah's time and manufacture has actually been found.

### Cyrus Field's Medals.

The Galveston News.

New York, July 17.—Cyrus W. Field gave his collection of medals and paintings relating to the laying of the Atlantic cable to the Metropolitan museum of art several months before his death. No announcement of the gift was made known until to-day. The medals and other tokens have been locked in a safe at the Metropolitan museum of art for some time and several of the paintings have been placed in the department of American antiquities. Mr. Field called upon General Gonola, director of the Metropolitan museum, last May, just before he went to Ardsley, where he died last Tuesday. He said that he had long contemplated giving his collection of medals and paintings to the museum and inquired if it would be accepted. The subject was referred to the committee of patronage and sculpture and they voted in favor of accepting the gift. There is the great medal presented to Mr. Field by congress in 1865 after the completion of the Atlantic cable. It contains gold worth \$387 and is a real work of art. There is also the certificate containing a vote of thanks of congress, which was given with the medal. It is of the finest parchment and is handsomely engrossed in colors. There is the cross of the order of St. Maurelius, conferred by the king of Italy, and the certificate awarding the grand prize of the Paris exposition of 1867. There are several fragments of the Atlantic cables and the collection of pictures consists of six large oil paintings and forty-six water colors illustrating the laying of the Atlantic cable. The most impressive painting of the series is the scene on board the vessel just after the broken cable was picked up and a message received through it.

A few days before Mr. Field went to Ardsley he stood before this painting, and then, turning to a friend, he said: "That represents the crisis of my life."

It is interesting to note that of the 328,000 divorces granted in the United States during the last twenty years 316,000 were granted at the request of wives.

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